

PHALÆNA PAPHIA.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Antennæ setaceæ, a basi ad apicem sensim attenuatæ.

Alæ (sedentis) sæpius deflexæ. (Volatu nocturno.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 808.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

PHALÆNA pectinicornis elinguis flava, alis falcatis concoloribus ocello fenestratis.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 809.

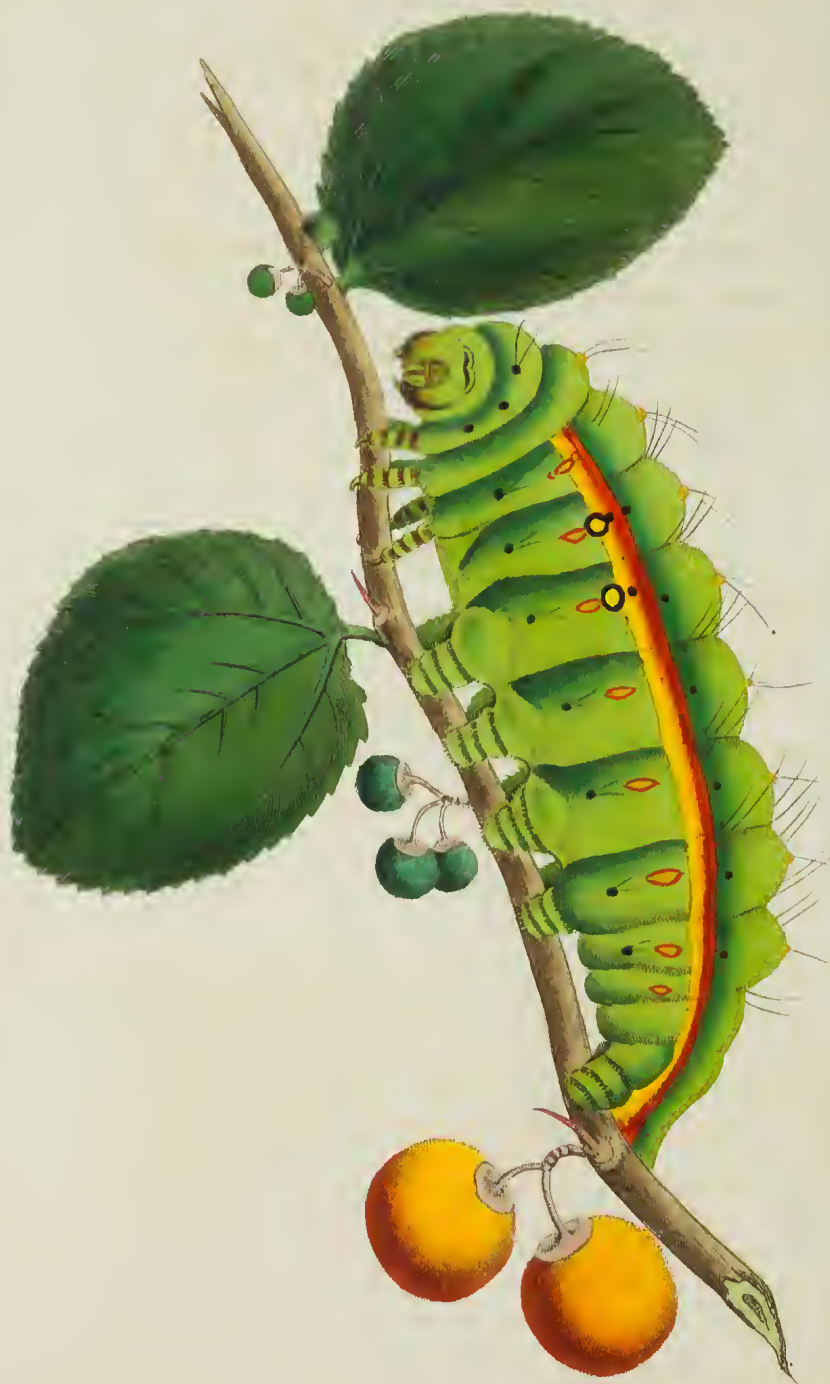
PHALÆNA alis patentibus concoloribus flavis, strigis rufis ocelloque fenestrato.

Fabr. sp. ins. 2. p. 168.

Phalænam quam depinximus generant multæ Indicæ regiones; ibique larva ejus prægrandis et quasi bombycina nomine *Tusseh* distinguitur. Rhamni Jujubæ Linnæi (quam *Byer* nuncupant Hindostaniam incolentes) folia præcipue depascitur; et a Bengalensi populo copiose colligitur, ut
inde

inde deducatur sericum subfuscum, crassum, firmum et durabile, quo vestiri solent Brachmanes, et alii nonnulli religiosi. Involvitur chrysalis teia seu theca ovata, unde comparatur sericum, quam ab extremo ramulis affigit chorda valida e filamentis agglutinatis contorta. Postquam novem menses transegerit chrysalis, nascitur phalæna, mense præcipue Julio; cujus color variat, interdum flavus, interdum fusco seu gilvo leviter suffusus. In tabula nostra exprimitur phalæna, nec non larva, magnitudine naturali.

Larvæ imaginem et notitiam debemus ingenioso Domino Roxburgh, qui de illa disseruit in septimo volumine actorum Societatis Linnæanæ.



R. P. NEEDER Del. et Sculp.

PAPHIA.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Antennæ setaceous, gradually lessening from base to point.

Wings (when at rest) generally deflected.

Flight nocturnal.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Yellow PHALÆNA, with patulous subfalcated wings, marked by a rufous stripe and transparent ocellated central spot.

PHALÆNA Mylitta.

Drury ins. 2. t. 5. *Cram.* t. 146. 147.

The beautiful Phalæna here represented is a native of many parts of India, where its caterpillar, which grows to a large size, is known by the name of the Tusseh Silk-worm. It feeds principally on the leaves of the *Rhamnus Jujuba* of Linnæus, (called Byer among the Hindoos,) and is so plentiful in many

many parts of Bengal as to afford to the natives, who collect it for that purpose, a strong, dark-coloured, coarse silk, extremely durable, and serviceable for many articles of dress, being much worn by the Bramins and some other sects. The webs in which the animal changes into its chrysalis state, and which afford the silk above-mentioned, are of an oval shape, and fastened at one end to the twigs on which they are placed by a very strong cord of agglutinated filaments. The moth makes its appearance chiefly in the month of July, having lain nine months in its chrysalis state. In colour it varies, being sometimes more or less tinged with pale brown or buff, instead of clear pale yellow, and, as well as the caterpillar, is exhibited on the plate in its natural size. For the above history of the insect, with the figure of the larva or caterpillar, we are obliged to the ingenious Dr. William Roxburgh, whose description of the animal is inserted in the seventh volume of the Transactions of the Linnean Society.

Actias

